Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 ANKARA 04842 201533Z

41

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9674

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

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TAGS: PFOR, TU, GW

SUBJECT: VISIT OF WEST GERMAN FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER,

JUNE 18-20

1. FEDERAL GERMAN (FRG) FONMIN HANS DIETRICH GENSCHER
DEPARTED ANKARA JUNE 20 AFTER A TWO-DAY OFFICAL VISIT HOSTED
BY TURKISH FONMIN IHSAN SABRI CAGLAYANGIL. DURING THE VISIT,
WHICH RECEIVED PROMINENT COVERAGE IN THE TURKISH PRESS, RADIO
AND TELEVISION, GENSCHER ALSO MET WITH PRESIDENT FAHRI KORUTURK,
PRIMIN SULEYMAN DEMIREL, OPPOSITION REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S
PARTY (RPP) CHAIRMAN BULENT ECEVIT AND DEPUTY PRIMIN TURHAN
FEYZIOGLU.

GENSCHER AND CAGLAYANGIL HELD A JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE ON UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 ANKARA 04842 201533Z

THE MORNING OF JUNE 20. IN HIS OPENING REMARKS, CAGLAYANGIL

DESCRIBED THE TALKS AS "VERY USEFUL" AND SAID THE TWO COUNTRIES SHARED TO A LARGE EXTENT THE SAME VIEW OF CURRENT INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS.

A. REGARDING CYPRUS, CAGLAYANGIL SAID A "TRUE DIALOGUE" HAD BEGUN AS A RESULT OF THE ROME AND BRUSSELS MEETINGS. HE CONTINUED: "I POINTED OUT THAT IN VIEW OF THE AGREEMENT WE HAVE REACHED, IT WILL BE POSSIBLE TO INITIATE NEGOTIATIONS ON VARIOUS SUBJECT:"

B. CAGLAYANGIL ALSO ANNOUNCED THAT TURKEY AND THE FRG HAD AGREED TO ESTABLISH A JOINT ECONOMIC COOPERATION COMMITTEE AND HAD DISCUSSED IN DETAIL THE PROBLEM OF TURKISH WORKERS IN GERMANY.

3. IN HIS REMARKS, GENSCHER REITERATED HIS COUNTRY'S CONCERN WITH THE PROBLEMS IN THE MEDITERRANEAN, ESPECIALLY CYPRUS AND THE AEGEAN. GENSCHER DENIED PRESS REPORTS THAT HE HAD ATTEMPTED TO MEDIATE BETWEEN TURKEY AND THE US OVER THE ARMS EMBARGO, BUT STRESSED THAT THE FRG GAVE "GREAT IMPORTANCE" TO THE RAPID SOLUTION OF THIS PROBLEM. HE CONTINUED: "THE FEDERAL GERMAN GOVERNMENT IS OF THE OPINION THAT THIS PROBLEM BETWEEN OUR TWO ALLIES SHOULD BE SOLVED WITHIN AN ATMOSPHERE OF MUTUAL CONFIDENCE. AS FAR AS I HAVE BEEN ABLE TO DETERMINE, THERE IS A DESIRE IN TURKEY AND IN AMERICA AS WELL, FOR THE SOLUTION OF THIS PROBLEM IN A CONSTRUCTIVE

MANNER, BOTH ALLIES ARE AWARE OF THEIR COMMON COMMITMENTS WITHIN THE ALLIANCE. THEY ARE AWARE OF ITS IMPORTANCE. IN MY CONTACTS WITH THE AMERICAN PARLIAMENTARIANS DURING MY VISIT TO AMERICAN AND WITH THE TURKSIH GOVERNMENT OFFICALS IN THE TALKS WE HELD, I HAVE EXPRESSED THE DESIRE OF THE GERMAN GOVERN-MENT TO SEE A SOLUTION TO THIS PROBLEM WHICH CONCERNS THE SECURITY OF THE ALLIANCE. THERE ARE SIGNS THAT THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS PROBLEM FOR THE ALLIANCE IS BEGINNING TO BE REALIZED SLOWLY BY THE AMERICAN PARLIAMENT." ASKED IF HIS COUNTRY COULD FILL THE ARMS GAP CREATED BY THE U.S. MILITARY AID CUTOFF, GENSCHER SAID: " AS YOU KNOW, IN THE PAST YEARS WE HAVE UNDERTAKEN MANY OBLIGATIONS TOWARD TURKEY AND WE HAVE DECIDED TO MAINTAIN THEM. THIS WILL BE OUR CONTRIBUTION TO MUTUAL SECURITY, BASED ON MY BELIEF THAT THIS PROBLEM WILL BE SOLVED IN A CONSTRUCTIVE MANNER, MY CONFIDENCE HAS GROWN THAT THE UNITED STATE OF UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 ANKARA 04842 201533Z

AMERICA WILL CLOSE THIS GAP THROUGH ITS OWN MEANS."

4. THREE TURKISH DAILIES (HURRIYET, MILLIYET, CUMHURIYET)
REPORTED ON JUNE 20 THAT IN HIS MEETING WITH PRIMIN DEMIREL
GENSCHER HAD CONVEYED A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT FORD AND HAD
URGED A RECONCILIATION OF TURKISH-AMERICAN DIFFERENCES (SEPTEL).
THE PRESS ALSO REPORTED THAT, ON GENSCHER'S REQUEST, THE TURKISH
GOVERNMENT GAVE HIM A LIST OF THE URGENT NEEDS OF THE TURKISH

AIR FORCE, ESPECIALLY FOR F-104 AND F-5 AIRCRAFT. GENSCHER REPORTEDLY ASKED THE TURKS NOT RPT NOT TO ACT HASTILY REGARDING THE U.S. BASES, POINTING OUT IT WOULD DO IRREPARABLE HARM TO NATO'S SOUTHEASTERN FLANK. IN AN UNSIGNED EDITORIAL, HURRIYET COMMENTED THAT GENSCHER'S VISIT TO ANKARA IMMEDIATELY AFTER HIS VISIT TO WASHINGTON WAS SIGNIFICANT AND THAT HE WOULD LIKELY REPEAT THE AMERICAN VIEWPOINT WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF NATO. THE EDITORIAL WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE TIME HAS COME TO OPENLY ANNOUNCE WHAT CONCESSIONS THE AMERICANS WANT FROM TURKEY IN CYPRUS AND FOR TURKEY TO DECIDE ON A DEFINITE PLAN. OTHERWISE, THE COMMENTARY CONCLUDED, FOEIGN PRESSURES ON TURKEY WOULD INCREASE.

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